

FIRST EDITION

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Costs up \$500,000 for Centre

A proposal to spend an additional \$500,000 towards the cost of building Niagara College's Tourism and Hospitality Centre was approved by the academic affairs committee March 17. The motion awaits approval from the Board of Governors.

"The planning committee report to the board indicates it is not possible to make further cuts in the building design in order to find that half million," Miss Roberts, college president, said.

If the board approves the additional \$500,000, the money will be raised through tax rebates, fundraising and energy conservation savings, she said.

TO BEGIN JULY 1

The college received \$5 million from the Ministry of Education last summer for the new tourism and hospitality centre to be built on college-owned property in Niagara Falls. Construction is slated to begin no later than July 1 and the building is expected to be ready for students by September 1989. The \$500,000 now awaiting board approval, would bring the building costs to the original \$6.5-million estimate, Miss Roberts said.

The reason for the increase is that a more cost-efficient heating system, costing \$150,000, is being installed.

The original one "would have had higher maintenance costs, but this new one will make it more worthwhile in three or four years," Miss Roberts said.

She said money was also needed to move existing furniture from the Rainbow Hotel Centre and the St. Catharines campus. Much of the equipment, such as stoves, is built-in. Moving costs will be about \$40,000.

As well, construction costs have risen about eight per cent. Since building is not slated to begin until July, escalation can be expected, Miss Roberts said.

Awards available

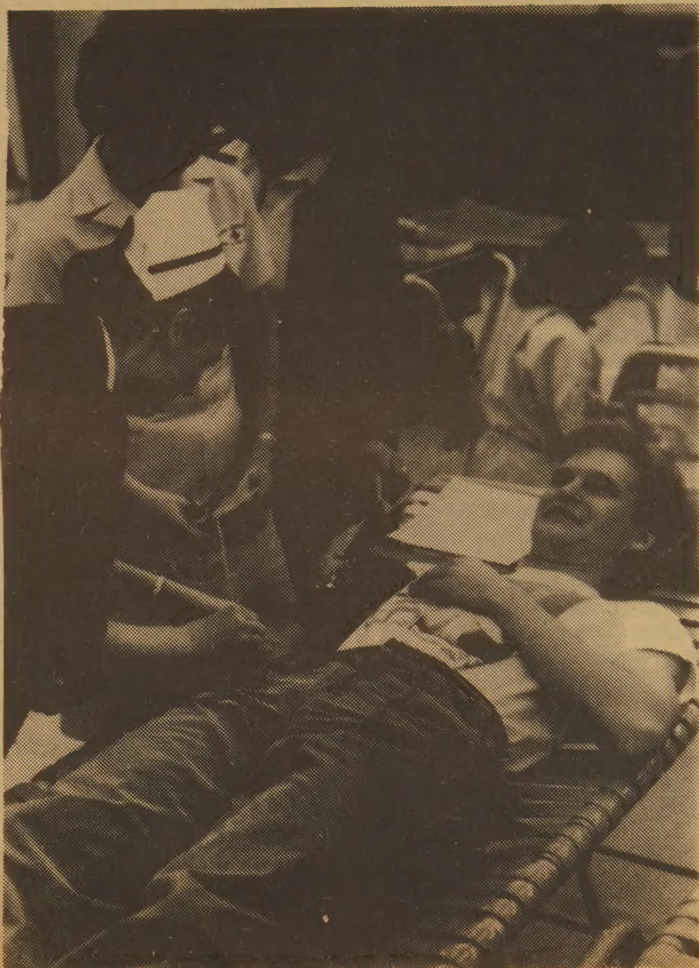
A wide array of scholarships, prizes, bursaries, and awards are available to students in all programs at Niagara College.

The awards vary from certificates to plaques to money. The amount of money ranges from \$50 to \$2,500.

Awards are based on scholastic ability and financial need.

Applications for bursaries are available at the Financial Aid Office and they must be returned to the Financial Aid Office by April 15.

Applications and brochures for OSAP will be available in the Financial Aid Office in April.



As nurses get him ready, first-year business administration student Thomas Kubow said this would be the second time he has donated blood and described it as a tingling feeling in his arm. He said it should be interesting writing a test after his donation.

Photo by Donald Wilsack

Blood donations drop 70% over November

By FRAN YANOR
Staff Writer

The Ambulance and Emergency Care students once again appear to have out-donated all other programs at the Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic held Tuesday in the school gymnasium.

The Ambulance and Emergency Care Program, winners of the Corpsuckle Cup for the last six years, had the largest turnout with 16 of the students enrolled in the course giving a pint of life. The Law and Security students donated 10 pints.

The total number of donors plummeted to 83, a substantial drop from last November's turnout of 275.

"We noticed a real decrease in donors...maybe the competition (Corpsuckle Cup) had something to do with it," Marjorie Frith, executive director of the Red Cross Welland chapter, said. "We hired extra nurses and called in more volunteers, but the crowd wasn't there. However, we are very grateful for those who did come out."

NO WAITING

Mrs. Frith was careful to stress that there was no waiting for donors; that was a major complaint about last November's clinic.

Jeff Genzer, first-year law and security student, agreed, "I just walked right in." Jeff was one in a class of Law and Security

students asked to help knock down the clinic after its close. Of this, his third time donating, he said, "It's the socially responsible thing to do...besides I like the doughnuts."

Next week the class with the largest percentage of donors will be presented with a pizza for their winning contributions to the Blood Clinic. The pizza will be donated by SAC some time next week when all the figures have been tabulated.

30 MINUTES

Many people may be wary of donating for fear that it will take too much time. However, the whole process only takes about 30 minutes if there is no waiting. Teresa Agro, Red Cross clinic assistant, said. She, along with a couple of others, prepared the specimens of blood for shipment to a lab in Hamilton where it will undergo a series of tests. Mrs. Agro said the day was relatively uneventful with "only one or two mild faints."

Surprisingly, there were very few deferrals; 18 people were turned down for various reasons — colds being the most common. Mrs. Agro agreed that the flu may have been a factor in the low turnout.

Disappointed in the low staff participation, Mrs. Frith said only about three or four of the faculty dropped in to give blood, down drastically from last year.

Changes lower SAC honorarium

By SHELLEY MOORE
and JULIE SLACK
Staff Writers

Despite arguments and flared tempers, the Student Administrative Council managed to pass all but one of 14 proposed amendments to the constitution on Monday.

The first amendment that all executives receive an equal honorarium — \$200 a month for next year — met a great deal of resistance from Darryl Nadeau, president, though it eventually passed. At present, the president receives \$300 a month and the six others \$200.

Amendments approved included a conflict of interest clause, the ~~minimum~~ average necessary to run for an executive position and a stipulation that students in their graduating term cannot run for office. The one amendment voted down was that the president present a monthly report.

On the subject of honorariums, Darryl insisted, "The president's honorarium should be higher than the rest."

Other council members felt equal pay would eliminate conflicts. Barb Morrison, vice-president of external affairs, thought the change was necessary because "there is a lot of resentment between levels of payment."

"The president if regarded as a figurehead," Elaine Wilson, school representative, said arguing for the amendment.

Julie Boone, school representative, pointed out that the money received is not pay; it is an honorarium. No one should be considered higher when receiving an honorarium.

'STUPID'

When the amendment was finally passed, Darryl said: "This is bullshit, totally stupid."

Following three different motions for the amount the honorariums should be, the amendment was passed, with a 4 to 3 vote, allowing for incoming councils to vote on the amount. The actual amount could not be specified in the constitution which did, however, allow for a cost-of-living allowance of 4.8 per cent.

Voting within the council to prevent a member from voting on an issue when there is a conflict of interest due to his place of employment was passed after a heated argument.

"This meeting is getting out of hand and I propose that councillors refrain from loud tones of voice and foul language," Kirk MacDonald, vice-president of athletics, said.

The scholastic average necessary to run for a position on council was a proposal that met some opposition. The committee formed to make the amendments suggested a 65 per cent average. One argument against this was that 60 per cent is the average necessary to pass most courses;

therefore, the average necessary to run for council should not be higher.

NO TO REPORT

The one amendment that was not passed required that the president prepare and present a monthly report on council activities.

"We want the president to make a conscious effort to do something," Elaine said in support of this amendment.

Julie said that if all executives are equal, then everyone should have to give a monthly report.

Disputed at length and passed, was a change stating a student in his graduating term cannot be eligible to run for office.

The arguments for this change were that, even a student who is returning to college would not know until the middle of April if he or she is even accepted into the program he applied for.

"That is totally stupid; this whole thing is stupid," Joe Caverson, school representative for technology, said.

The attendance policy, which allows an executive to miss a maximum of two meetings per term, was passed. The council may take disciplinary action as they deem necessary.

An addition to the duties of the school representatives stipulates if they do not fulfil their duties, they can be dismissed by a two-thirds majority vote. Replacements will be elected by class representatives at the next class representative meeting.

Elections will be held in the second term no later than the last week of March, rather than in the last week of March as was previously stated.

Three school representatives, instead of four, will be elected to represent the students from each of the schools of applied arts and health sciences; business; and technology. The students' term will be from Oct. 1 until April 30 unless they return to the same school. If this occurs, they can stay in office until Sept. 30; otherwise, the school will not be represented.

Written proxy votes for council members not attending the meeting must be a formal written motion signed by the member.

A change in duties said the vice-president for internal affairs would monitor and assist the activities of the social convener.

Closely related to this, the social convener shall attend all pubs or if unable to, to make arrangements for the vice-president of internal affairs to attend if possible.

Proposed and passed, the bookkeeper shall receive a salary of \$125 bi-weekly rather than twice a month. This set-up allows the bookkeeper to receive an extra two pay cheques.

All of the amendments must still be passed by the Board of Directors.



Enough's enough

These days are gone until next year, which may seem like forever to some and wasn't soon enough for Gary Basnett, left, Mike Casey, centre, and Brad Chilcott. Everyone can look forward to basking in the warm sun and baking on the beach. Gone are the days of shivering, bundling up and freezing the tush. Hang up the bulky coats and enjoy the sunshine.

Photo by Cindy Logan

Students get chance to display talent

Technical Report Night can best be described as a show and tell on a college level.

Students in their final year of computer, electrical and electronic engineering are selected to give oral presentations explaining the theory behind the practical models they have designed, built and tested.

Migraine relief through seminar

Migraine sufferers may finally find relief as Niagara College presents a seminar on migraine headaches, at the end of the month.

Author and migraine-sufferer, Rosemary Dudley, executive vice-president of the Migraine Foundation, will be on hand to discuss the causes and effects of this inherited condition, as well as treatment and research being conducted on migraine headaches.

The seminar will take place on Tuesday, March 29, at Niagara College's Welland campus, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a \$20 fee to attend.

For more information on the seminar, contact Continuing Education Services.

Technical Report Night is an annual event presented by the student branch of the IEEE. The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Inc. is an international organization of professional engineers created to share information in the field of engineering technology.

WILL BE MC

John Raso, outgoing president, will be the master of ceremonies for the event for the second year. Tickets are available from club members for \$10 each.

The event will take place on Wednesday, April 13, in the evening. The night will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a one-hour symposium in the cafeteria. It will be followed by a dinner until 8 p.m.

At 8 p.m., the technical papers will be read in the Hamilton Room.

"A lot of the second-year students attend to see what is expected of them in the following year," John said.

Tickets are sent out to industry and high schools in an effort to reach the community and to show some of the talent of students soon to be graduating.

OACETT recruits members

By MARK TAYTI
Staff Writer

Representatives from OACETT were in the cafeteria Tuesday night trying to recruit future engineering technicians and technologists into their organization.

The Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists is an organization founded 25 years ago to ensure professional standards and to promote the profession of engineering technicians and technologists.

The recruitment drive is aimed at students in their final year who will soon be going out into the work force as engineering technicians and technologists, but the meeting was open to anyone interested in learning about OACETT, and drinking the free beer afterwards.

John Fisher, registrar for OACETT, said he tries to visit all the colleges at least once a year to introduce graduates to the association.

"It provides a bridge for the transition from an academic environment into their profession," Mr. Fisher said.

Local chapters meet once or twice a month. Mr. Fisher said belonging to OACETT gives a student an edge when entering the work force.

MEET PEERS

"OACETT meetings are a good chance to meet with your peers

and share information," Mr. Fisher said.

David Sloan, Niagara Regional delegate for OACETT and a Niagara College graduate, said the local chapter is trying to get involved at Niagara College.

"I think it is a definite advantage to be a member," Mr. Sloan said. "The association represents a measure of professionalism."

A student is eligible upon graduation to become an associate member of OACETT. He must work for two years to qualify for full membership. There are no dues the first year for a graduate who wants to be an associate member.

"We maintain consistent standards for admission," Mr. Fisher said. "In some cases OACETT membership is a condition for employment."

Besides promoting and enforcing professional ethics, OACETT offers a variety of services designed to assist engineering technicians and technologists throughout their careers.

It costs a graduate \$88 to maintain his associate status at the end of his first year's grace. Yearly membership dues for a full member are \$110.

"We are like a club," Mr. Fisher said. "We are not a union."

Members receive an annual salary report, and a newsletter and a trade magazine, Ontario Technologist, six items a year. OACETT can offer reduced car and life insurance rates, and discount car rentals.

"The bigger we get, the more bargaining power we have," Mr. Fisher said.

The OACETT is growing at a rate of about 2,000 members a year. Mr. Fisher said there are about 17,000 members this year, but by the end of next year there should be 20,000.

The magazine OACETT sends its members job listings, articles and letters from industry and up-to-date information about new developments in specific areas.



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Poll reveals

Bricks, bouquets for SAC

By SHELLEY MOORE
and ELAINE WILSON
Staff Writers

Lack of activities, poor promotion, and disregard for students were the major complaints of students towards the 1987-88 Student Administrative Council. Students were asked their opinions in a recent SAC poll.

Most of those who responded to the poll admitted they did not follow the activities of SAC. Other students claimed total ignorance of those who held an executive position, or even of the existence of a student administration.

Students were asked, "In your opinion, how has SAC performed this year and how might the incoming council learn from their achievements and mistakes?"

Enthusiasm and improperly publicized events left Michelle Jinverson, a second-year Early Childhood Education student, disappointed with this year's SAC.

"I've talked to Darryl about activities but it seemed he didn't want to go out of his way to get involved. He does what he wants to do," Michelle said.

Michelle heard about the personality conflicts that existed between council members, and although unclear of their truth, felt it may have hurt the council's performance. "You can't get anything accomplished if you are arguing," she said.

Her advice to the incoming council is to get more information from students and to be more flexible.

She and her friends were ignorant of any clubs and their activities, as well as Olympic Week. "We try to keep aware but it's not interesting. The incoming SAC could learn from council's pubs, which were dead because the bands weren't very good."

Jocelyn Couture, second-year Electrical Technician student, believes SAC has "done a good job."

"I have a friend on council, so we hear a lot of what goes on."

Jocelyn, "well informed" of SAC activities participated often, particularly in Olympic Week and the Blood Donor Clinic last November.

Graduating at the end of this term, Jocelyn believes the incoming council can learn a great deal from the outgoing SAC executive.

"Any government should learn from the one before and the next SAC can learn a lot from this year's."

Patty Vollick, a sales and merchandising student, became directly involved with the Student Administrative Council this year when she planned to organize a Battle of the Bands pub in association with the council.

Patty initiated the idea for the pub because there was "not much going on this year compared to last year." But after she started planning, she was told to "butt out."

"I think they're disorganized. There is definitely a communication problem and I hear there is a

lot of backstabbing within the council."

Patty believes next year's SAC should try to work more as a unit, feeling a student council "should be not that way when they're in a position of authority."

First-year Business Administration student Susan Reid had "no complaints" with the Student Administrative council.

"I think they are doing an all right job."

Although she admits she does not follow student politics closely, Susan feels SAC has fulfilled its duties well.

"They got a lot of things going, pub-wise, and I haven't heard about any personality conflicts on council."

Steven Potts had not "heard about what SAC is doing." The second-year sales student has been "too involved in personal matters" so has not kept up with SAC activities.

The graduating student says the college's first-year students are left out and uniformed. "The council has a bad rapport with first-year students."

Better communication can inspire the incoming council, Steven said. "If SAC keeps a high profile and tries to get more things on campus, SAC would be more aware of students and students more aware of council."

Second-year Retail Management student Shelly McConachie said SAC did a "pretty good job" this year, although she "did not always know what was going on."

Shelley feels the main problem lies in promotion. "I didn't even hear about Olympic Week until it was almost over."

The posters they put up were too small and sometimes they went up too late, Shelley said.

"Next year's council should involve the students more and find out what the students want, through polls, interviews or questionnaires."

Shelley said she has not followed SAC activities and "wouldn't know the president if I fell over him."

Publicity, personality conflicts, and pubs were the main concerns of Karen Bell, second-year Business Accounting student.

"They didn't publicize anything so there were a lot of unsuccessful pubs."

Karen heard of the personality conflicts SAC experienced this year and thought it detrimental to their performance. "To be in SAC, you should get along in order to get things accomplished."

She feels the incoming council could learn from the problems that arose with the present council.

Graduating Early Childhood Education student, Anna Pizicarola, said SAC performed their duties "all right" and had some constructive criticism for the incoming council.

"Council didn't listen to students and should have had more pubs with popular bands."

Communication, promotion, and lack of concern for students seemed to be her primary concerns with SAC. "Students don't participate and it's the council's

fault. They're supposed to get the students into it."

Anna was pleased the council began the on-campus pubs — mini-pubs, promoting a student social atmosphere, but wished there could be more intramural athletics for women.

"If next year's council promotes itself, gets along and keeps the afternoon pubs going, it should be a good year."

Michelle Groul, a second-year retail management student, thinks SAC does not make itself noticeable enough.

Michelle thinks SAC should use the loudspeaker to announce their activities to the students; they need some way to get the attention of students. The light board is a good idea, "if it catches."

She likes the trips for new clubs that have arisen within the college.

Les Novak, a second-year electronic technician student, said he thought SAC was "very disorganized," and that the Olympics were "disgusting."

He thought mini-pubs were a "good idea", but would like to see better live entertainment.

Holly Greene, a first-year Early Childhood Education student, said she would like to see noon-time entertainment in the cafeteria during the middle of the week when "it is packed." She said in the middle of the week would be better than Friday afternoon "when everyone wants to get out and pack up and go to the cottage."

She said fashion shows in the cafeteria would be a good idea so that people could watch if they were having a coffee or something.

Elaine Primeau, a second-year library technician student, said, "There's nothing there for older students; there is a tendency to ignore them."

She would like to see activities for the older students, or at least there could be music for older students.

Christine Poulin, a second-year Early Childhood Education bilingual student, thought there was "not enough awareness," of activities, like mini-pubs, before the first one was held.

She suggested assemblies be held to inform the students of what is going on.

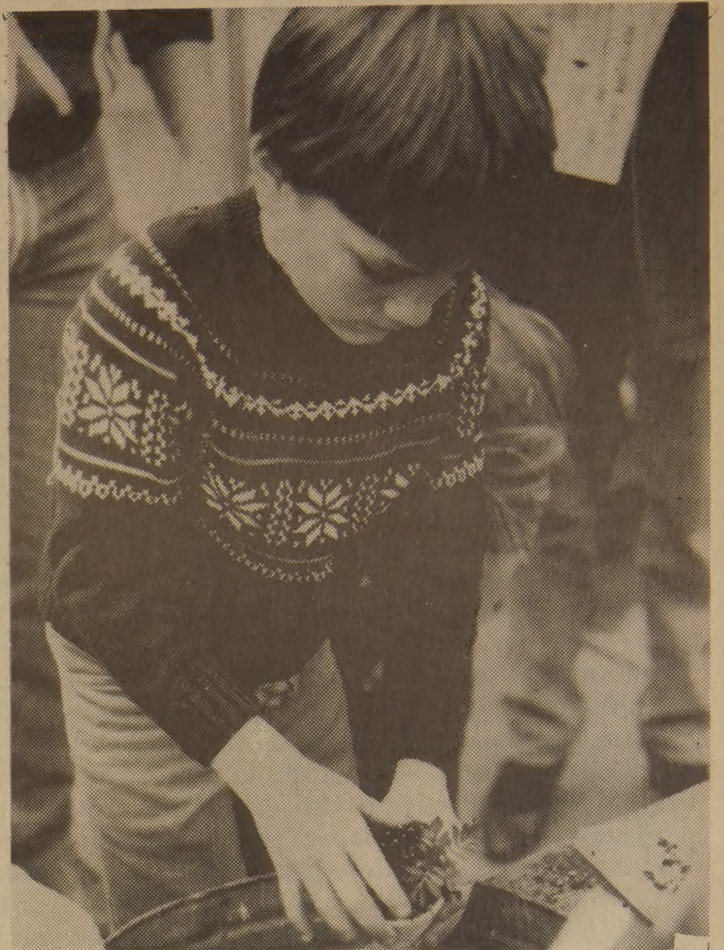
Carole Gagnon, a first-year bilingual secretary student, said that SAC did "pretty good," there were a lot of activities.

She felt, however, that things should be announced more so that students know that there are activities going on.

Jodi Smith, a health science student, said the mini-pubs are good, but that SAC was not high in the consciousness of students.

Jodi thought that the "running of elections was the worst," "things (Olympics) weren't well organized."

She said SAC "didn't make themselves noticeable."



This little boy is taking part in just one of the displays put on by the Horticulture students at their annual Open House last weekend. The Open House brought in about 3,500 over two days and included such displays as a Japanese Garden, a Bonsai display, a tropical and a sub-tropical display and, as seen here, a children's garden. Photo by Randy Conlon

Hort show a success as 3,500 attend

By TRACY SCHILZ
Staff Writer

Winter conditions outside contrasted with the colors and smells of spring inside Niagara College's Horticulture Centre March 19 and 20.

About 3,500 people were drawn to the centre's annual Open House to purchase plants, get helpful hints on lawn, garden and plant care, or just to admire the many displays.

One of the displays at the centre, 360 Niagara St., St. Catharines, was an authentic Japanese garden; a pagoda surrounded by peony shrubs edged a pond fed by a gentle water fall. An arch bridge made for a safe crossing and elevated visitors into the pink blossoms of a Japanese cherry tree, backdropped by bamboo walls.

World plant geography was very explicit. Five baskets containing different fruits, vegetables, nuts and spices were connected by ribbons to a map of the world to give the viewers a better understanding of the vastness of horticulture around the five continents.

In a green house, a two-year old banana tree was on display. This tree has been harvested and staff and students have enjoyed its fruit as well as those of other trees grown at the centre — oranges and lemons.

Colleen Glousher, a first-year horticulture student, said, "A lot of work goes into these displays; it's too bad we can't leave them up."

With many horticulture students and teachers around, there was always someone for inquisitive individuals to ask questions of.

On the second floor, exhibits were displayed by the Bonsai, the Garden City Horticulture Orchid and the Thorold Horticultural societies.

There was much more to see and

learn about ranging from silk flower designs to biological (pest) control.

The Open House was a "tremendous success" by and for the public, the students and the staff, Peter Mansfield, program co-ordinator, said. "We had great returns on our investments."

Between 80 and 85 per cent of the plants for sale at the Open House sold and the rest have been sold since.

Another tremendous success was the alumni. With no formal reunion for graduates, the annual Open House takes its place. "It pleased us greatly," Mr. Mansfield said. Though he did not know how many graduates attended this year, there was one graduate from 1969.

There is a tremendous amount of work involved in organizing the Open House, Mr. Mansfield said. Planning begins in the fall, with first and second-year students meeting often to discuss and determine how they will display their weeks and months of hard work.

All classes are cancelled for the three days prior to the show to set up. Flagstones, pebbles and greenery were painstakingly arranged to enhance the show.

Ooops

Jackets bought by the SAC executive for its members and three school reps cost \$55 each, including tax. The Niagara News reported last week the jackets cost \$70 each. The motion to purchase the white and blue jackets was passed in camera last fall; it was decided on Feb. 29 that the jackets would be bought for the class reps, too. There are 12 jackets in the purchase. The Niagara News regrets any inconvenience the error may have caused.

Editorials

Student apathy hurts college

The present Student Administrative Council has come under a great deal of criticism this academic year. Animosity, indifference to the students and satellite campuses, and poorly run activities have marred the council in the eyes of students. But if blame is to be cast, then it should be shared equally between SAC and the students of Niagara College, whose apathy has over-run the school.

Student apathy is alarming: only 10 per cent of all students cast a vote in the recent, highly publicized, well-campaigned SAC election; poor attendance has marked pubs; students remain indifferent to school politics, electing to bone up on their euchre skills instead of showing an interest in council meetings to see how their money is spent or how their council represents them; even the satellite campuses, who claim to be ignored by the Welland campus, have committed themselves to remain dislocated from SAC, making no effort to attend council meetings upon invitation from the executive. Those ready to cry foul when SAC "misrepresents" students are often ignorant of issues and circumstances.

This should be a time in students' lives when they become involved politically, as well as socially, in the scope of the college atmosphere, contributing to make the college a place of which he is proud to be a part. Instead, most students at Niagara College remain complacent and detached.

The solution? Show some involvement with a little bit of effort. Participate, ask questions and voice concerns, not to card-shark buddies, but to the student council, where a voice must be heard to make a difference. Do not wait for SAC to come to you. Remember, a student council is only as strong as the students it represents.

Elaine Wilson

Letter criticizes teachers

The student who wrote the anonymous letter in the March 1988 issue of What's Up Niagara needs to be corrected on two points. First, saying that 75 per cent of the teachers at Niagara College have not received any kind of teaching certificates and that, because of this, they don't have the ability to deal with the students is nonsense. The teachers at this school are extremely hard working and dedicated.

There is more to school than learning what you call redundant techniques and outdated theories. College teaches you to think and learn so you can understand problems and solve them, a much more important skill since what you learn today will probably be outdated in five years.

Second, the complaint that the education we receive is not in line with the high tuition we are paying is also nonsense. Sorry, pal, but as students, we pay about one-seventh of the cost per student of running Niagara College.

So next time you go around whining about the cost of tuition, think about what it would be like if the taxpayers weren't footing most of the bill — that's \$4,200 dollars, pal, since the bad education you think you are getting, you probably can't multiply.

I don't blame you for not signing the letter; if I had written the letter, I wouldn't have signed it either.

Bill Sawchuk

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A fool by any other name

By CINDY LOGAN
Staff Writer

Once upon a time the first of April was celebrated as the beginning of the new year. Now it is a time to be on guard against funny, foolish pranks. Some pranks are elaborate; other pranks are merely harmless hoaxes. The custom of fooling friends and family became widespread in England in the 1600s, but originated in France.

The adoption of the reformed calendar, France being first, by Charles IX in 1564 changed the date of new New Year's to Jan. 1. The new year celebration had begun March 21 and ended April 1. When the reformed calendar changed the date, some stubborn people still celebrated April 1. They became known as April Fools.

The custom of fooling friends became popular in France and spread to other countries. Today, in most English-speaking countries, men, women and children will play absurd, but harmless, jokes on some poor victim.

The first day of April is known by many names. One is All Fool's Day which is celebrated Dec. 28 in Mexico; another is April Noddy from northern England. In France poisson d'avril means April fish and the Scottish call the day Huntigowk or April cuckoo.

The timing of April Fool's Day seems related to spring or vernal equinox when mother nature fools mankind with sudden weather changes. April Fool's Day pranks and celebrations resemble other festivals such as Hilaria of Ancient Rome held March 25 and the Holi festival of India ending March 31.

This year Good Friday will fall on April Fool's Day. Will it stop the pranks? One can only hope.

Ooops

The date for the annual International Dinner is Saturday, April 16, 1988, and not April 22, as appeared in the March 18 edition of The Niagara News. The News regrets any inconvenience this may have caused.

Council seeks changes in constitution

By SHELLEY MOORE
Staff Writer

The Student Administrative Council sought changes in its constitution because there were a lot of "grey areas," Glen Futers, executive vice-president, said. There were also areas the council has had some problems with this year.

An ad hoc committee, set up Feb. 15 to make amendments, consisted of: Glen; Barb Morrison, vice-president of external affairs; Steve McCarthy, social convener; and Elaine Wilson, representative of the School of Applied Arts and Health Sciences. The committee's job was to clarify sections and change those that are no longer valid.

For the amendments to be passed officially, the committee had to be in unanimous agreement, SAC

had to have a majority vote and the Board of Directors must approve by a two-thirds vote.

At Monday's SAC meeting, 13 amendments were accepted and one was rejected. The changes have not yet gone to the board.

An addition to the constitution stating that "All executives will receive an equal honorarium with a cost-of-living increase option to be voted on by each incoming council," was proposed in an attempt to alleviate resentment towards the president.

"It is not a wage or a salary; it is a recognition for work done for council and should be equal," Elaine said.

The one amendment that did not pass stated that the president should prepare and present a monthly report on SAC activities. As there was nothing in the constitution that defined the pres-

ident's duties, the committee agreed this amendment would "legitimize" the position more.

The president's duties are now decided by the Board of Directors. It is made up of: all student council executives; Dr. Nora McCardell, executive director of educational and student services; Gary LaRose, executive director of administrative services; Bette Ferguson, director of student services; and Sandra Fox, budget officer.

The date of elections was a topic of an amendment calling for them to be held no later than the last week in March instead of in the last week of March, as stated in the constitution now; the reason is to allow more time in which to orientate the next council.

SAC had some problems this year with conflicts of interest due to some of the councillors' place of

employment, resulting in an amendment allowing SAC executives to move that the member refrain from voting.

To clarify the situation and so that administration would not be bothered, an amendment was proposed that students in graduating term cannot run for a term on the executive council. This was because a problem arose in the recent SAC elections in which a student in his graduating year wanted to run for office, but had not yet been accepted in a program within the college. Acceptance notices are not sent out until well after the election.

The other amendment was made to raise the minimum average required to run for a position on SAC to 65 per cent instead of 60 per cent as it now stands.

Thank you, Journalism

Dear Mrs. Blue and Mr. Jelbert,

Thank you for the tour of the journalism department which you gave us yesterday. We really enjoyed learning about the way a newspaper is put together.

In particular, we appreciated seeing the operation of the typesetter computer, and the dark room facility.

Again, thank you for your time and patience.

Students of English 055 Sect.01
Family Care Assistants
Donna Robertson
Carmen Coutre
Sue M. Simpson
Sandra Michitsch
Tammy Bailey
Cynthia Lee
Evelyn Benny

Focus

on Cults

Adolescents most susceptible to cults

By TERRY MOORE
Staff Writer

A common experience binds George Harrison, Patty Hearst, Charles Manson, and Sharon Tate, and the inevitable process of growing up may link a portion of today's youth with these people.

That common experience is involvement in radical groups, more commonly known as cults.

People up to the age of 35 join these groups, but the majority range in age from 16 to 20 years, a time when personality is under formation, a time named adolescence.

In this period of emotional turmoil, one feels alienated as if he does not belong; he feels isolated, thereby feeling insecure, incomplete and unworthy.

Adolescent

These are normal adolescent feelings, wrote Saul Levine in *Radical Departures — Desperate Detours to Growing Up*. Mr. Levine is head of psychiatry at the Sunnybrook Medical Centre in Toronto, professor of psychiatry at the University of Toronto, and a specialist in problems of the young.

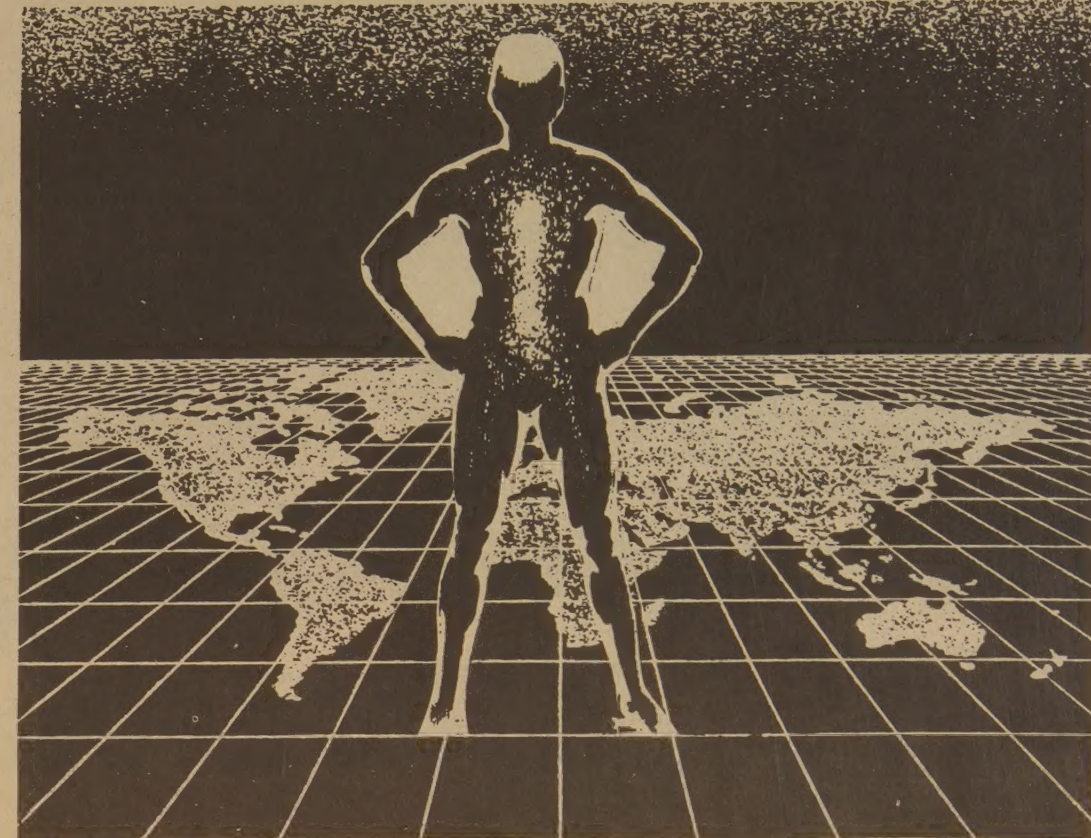
If during one's adolescence, one is approached by a group whose members appear happy, dedicated and whose lives have a purpose, that youth the "radical group", as Dr. Levine prefers to call them, "Cult" has turned into a four-letter word.

The ideal candidate for cult membership has an open mind, is curious, idealistic, and is willing to listen to the ideas of others. People who have been spiritually reborn are more prone than others.

If a person has been converted once, he can be converted again, Greg Laughton, an English teacher at Niagara College, said. Mr. Laughton teaches a course in propaganda and persuasion.

Basic recruitment usually takes place during group idea sharing and "love bombing".

"Love bombing" is the lavish



attention, love, and support showered upon a potential member during a recruitment session; during this time that person is made to feel as if he is the most important one around. The members "work overtime" at making a person feel good himself and, therefore, he feels good about them," Mr. Laughton.

Systematic

The offer of a close and intimate relationship are strong incentives to join the "non-stop", continuous affection captures your interest and commitment," Bruce Tallon, Niagara College psychology teacher, said.

Cult joiners often feel the group reflects the values of their parents. Like their parents, the group seems compassionate and caring about people, family, and the community.

The majority of those who join are from a middle class background, and this is "mainly because of the generation gap existing between middle class youth and their parents." Mr. Tallon said.

"All cults start from the perspective there is a God," Fred Habermehl, dean, School of Applied Arts and Health Sciences. Mr. Habermehl is a retired Baptist minister.

Cults offer a "new, better and faster way" of reaching God. The groups leader claims to be a "modern day apostle" or a "special prophet from God" who said he has found the one "true light".

Cults have been called an "abdication of active responsibility" — that is, members are led unquestioningly by their leader. In all groups, one suspends his ability

to use judgment, a phenomenon known as "checking one's brain in at the door".

The group hands one all of life's answers in a "predigested form" Mr. Laughton said, and provides a complete environment for the individual, thus separating him from his family and friends.

Offer

The systematic and intentional undermining of one's conscious mind by means of mental and physical torture has several names — indoctrination, menticide, and brainwashing.

Its methods include use of marijuana, sleep deprivation, undernourishment, the infliction of guilt and fear, isolation from family and friends, dress requirements and the removal of privacy. Chanting — a form of hypnosis — is also used.

Loans help to students

By MARGARET BOAL
Staff Writer

Have you dreamed about being your own boss? Have you pictured yourself as an entrepreneur? Have you thought about starting your own summer business? You are not alone. Last year, through the Student Venture Capital loan, almost 1,100 student summer businesses were operated in Ontario.

The Student Venture Capital loan is a program designed to help students start their own summer business. The program is funded by the Ministry of Skills Development in conjunction with the Royal Bank of Canada, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and local Chambers of Commerce.

The programs offers students interest-free loans of up to \$3,000 to start their own business. Students must be more than 15 years of age and be returning to high school, college or university full time in the fall to be eligible for a loan.

Glenn Gandy, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce in Niagara Falls, said students who are interested in the program need to set up a complete business plan.

"The plan should consist of the type of business, who the intended customers are, who the competition is, advertising and promotion plans, and how the loan will be spent," he said.

Students who are applying for a loan must set up an interview with their local chamber of commerce to assess their business plan. If the application is approved, the chamber of commerce will give a recommendation for a loan from the Royal Bank.

Mr. Gandy said about 80 per cent of student businesses, through the program are successful.

Tim Richards, a 22-year-old business student, is one of those success stories. The third-year Brock University student started a branch of the franchised Paint Brushers Inc. in Hamilton. He funded the project with a loan from the Student Venture Capital program. Tim was so successful, he was promoted within the company to district support manager.

Tim said the company, started in 1979 by a University of Western Ontario student, has had a 500 per cent growth increase since 1982. The entire operation was financed by a loan from the Student Venture Capital program.

The program was highly recommended by Tim and he urged interested students to apply immediately.

"It is good practical experience, and it gives students an edge for future career plans. You learn all the aspects of running your own business. It is highly unlikely you will fail if you are motivated. All it takes is a desire to succeed," Tim said.

Mr. Gandy recommended the program to help students in the future. "It allows students to use their ingenuity, and that can be beneficial later in life," he said.

Applications for the program are available at any local chamber of commerce, Royal Bank branch, high school, college or university.

Boxer looks forward to re-match in April

By RANDY CONLON
Staff Writer

Bill Irwin is angry.

The 19-year-old Niagara College student just returned home from the National boxing championships in Edmonton and he feels he was "robbed" of a chance to fight for his country at the 1988 summer Olympics in Seoul.

Bill, the Ontario lightweight champion for the past four years, lost in the tournament semi-final bout to British Columbia champion Jim Worell by a split decision.

"I was very confident going into the fight because I watched him fight earlier, and I said to myself, 'This tournament's mine,'" Bill said. "I was sure that I had won every round, and so was my corner. After the fight even he (Worell) told me that he thought I won the fight."

Bill opened the tournament last Friday against Alberta champion



BILL IRWIN

Edgar Davis and won the fight by a unanimous decision.

Bill rocked his opponent in the first round, sending him to the canvas with a hard right. But knocking his opponent out was not exactly Bill's fight plan.

"I was trying to knock him out with one punch, which is wrong," he said. "I should have fought the way I fought when I won the Ontario's, but once I knocked him

down, I got overanxious."

Bill's dreams of Olympic gold are not yet over. In the third week of April, he has a second chance to claim the national title at a box-off to be held in Quebec. This means that four fighters, who were losers on the weekend, fight for a chance to challenge the newly crowned champion, Saskatchewan's Jeff Hill for the national title.

"I'm going to kill everyone there. It's going to be non-stop punching. I'm going to be in the best shape I've ever been in," he said. "I know what I have to do in the ring to beat each guy that will be there. I'm going to win, I know it. I have a month to go, and I'm gearing everything towards boxing."

As for the loss on the weekend, Bill is not blaming the judges entirely. He said that he thought he could have fought in a more disciplined way.

"I was angry with myself because I saw the crop of fighters that were there, and I know I should be the champion. I would have liked to throw a lot more punches, especially upper-body punches."

Bill and his corner were not the only people who thought that Bill won his semi-final bout. "When the bell rang to end the fight, I felt very confident because a lot of people were cheering for me saying 'Yeah, way to go, Bill. Good fight.' When the decision was announced I said 'This is bull---.'"

Bill will have his work cut out for him. He will have to win four fights in four days, including beating the champion twice.

If going about things the hard way is what Bill Irwin has to do to get to Seoul, then Bill is more than willing to take on any and all that will step in his way on the route.

Wild animals invade Seaway Mall

By JULIE SLACK
Staff Writer

One had the feeling of walking in a jungle surrounded by wild bears, caribou and deer last week at the Seaway Mall. The vision was altered, however, when one's eye caught sight of the familiar stores.

Indeed, the Seaway Mall was filled true to life one had to look twice. Even at a second glance, the animals appeared to be cast in the same mold; in fact, they were.

Jean Louis L'ecugers is the curator of The Wildlife Museum in Quebec City where there are 500 different species of animals on display.

MOBILE MUSEUM

Mr. L'ecugers closes his museum in the winter and takes his rebuilt animals on the road. "It is the only mobile museum." All the animals are on wheels, and they are loaded into two transport-trailers.

The Seaway Mall show was the largest number of animals ever shown. Generally only 50 animals are displayed. The display was at the mall from March 8-19. There were more than 1,500 school children at the mall the first week. "We put the animals on the road for education and conservation," Mr. L'ecugers said.

The Wildlife Museum preserves bodies of dead animals. The bodies are sent out to sculptors to be rebuilt. The sculptor rebuilds them by making a fibreglass mold of their body. Every vein is molded into shape. This is why the animals appear so lifelike.

ADDS FEATURES

From the sculptor, they are given to a taxidermist: one who prepares and mounts the skins of animals to give them the lifelike effect. He adds the features to the animals. Eyes are made of marble; teeth and tongues are made of plastic.

"The animals are not stuffed; they are rebuilt," Mr. L'ecugers stressed.



The animals are sent to, or picked up, by Mr. L'ecugers who makes about eight trips a year; in total he has been to 99 different countries. Sixty-five per cent of the animals come from zoos where they have died of old age. The rest are accident victims of problem animals. All the animals are full grown.

One caribou on display died as a result of the river accident in Quebec three years ago which killed 10,000 caribou. A rebuilt jaguar was killed because it was killing caribou in Peru.

Not only are the animals realistic, 150 natural plants in the display create a natural setting.

As frightening as the animals appeared, only the skin was real.

This lion was one of 100 rebuilt animals on display at the Seaway Mall last week. Jean Louis L'ecugers is the curator of The Wildlife Museum in Quebec City; each winter he takes the animals on the road to be displayed. This lion died of old age in a zoo and was rebuilt for education and conservation.

Photo by Julie Slack

Allergy seminar April 13

The Niagara College Continuing Education Services is presenting an Allergy and Sensitivity Update seminar on allergies and the difficult problem of reactions to food.

Executive director of the Allergy Information Association (AIA) Susan Daglish will outline diagnostic techniques and treatments.

Ms. Daglish, frequent guest-speaker on CBC's Radio Noon phone hour, editor of the AIA's quarterly newsletter, and publisher of two cookbooks on allergen-free cooking, will provide information to help the allergy sufferer understand medical treatments of allergies and interpret that knowledge into practical advice.

The seminar, costing \$15 per participant, will be held at the college's Welland campus on Wednesday, April 13, from 7 to 9 p.m. Continuing Education may be contacted for further information.

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The program is sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Skills Development in co-operation with the Royal Bank of Canada, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and local participating Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade.



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The logo of Niagara College, featuring a circular design with the text "NIAGARA COLLEGE" and "SINCE 1963".



Children at Stamford Presbyterian Christian Nursery School in Niagara Falls are content to play in the sandbox inside. Soon spring temperatures will rise allowing the children the freedom to play outdoors. Photo by Margaret Bartlett

Counsel service advises more than emotionally distraught

By ELAINE WILSON
Staff Writer

The college counselling service is suffering an image problem and the problem may be keeping some students who need assistance away from help.

Students are afraid to seek help from the centre because of a stigma, a mark of shame placed upon it by students and faculty who believe those who receive counselling are suffering emotional problems. Realistically, the Niagara College Counselling Service provides a number of student services besides personal counselling.

"It is an outlet where students and instructors can find someone to talk with, but we offer a variety of other services," Brigitte Chiki, counsellor said.

MORE SERVICES

As well as personal counselling, the service provides academic testing, career counselling and job planning, and a study skills program for those experiencing academic difficulties.

The six professionally trained counsellors, ranging from theologians to social workers, health officials and teachers, see about 200 students a month, for one reason or another.

"We are really a sounding board trying to give students a little

support," Mrs. Chiki said. Counselling service, an extension of Student Services, is associated with Health Services, Placement and the Co-op Centre. Its service reaches beyond the college and the community, where prospective students may seek academic counselling.

NO SHAME

Students are afraid to get help from the centre because of a fear they will be shamed in the eyes of their friends, Mrs. Chiki said.

"People think if you see a counsellor it is because you have a psychological or emotional problem. Although we see a few students with such problems, most of the students who come into our office, come for academic testing and career counselling."

The service may be tightening its image problem in vain, as "an underfunding problem" prevents it from refurbishing the service. Increased funding could be used to implement new programs, presenting a healthier picture of what the service has to offer.

"We would like to introduce peer counsellors, mature student programs, more study skills workshops, and programs for the handicapped and those with special needs," Mrs. Chiki said.

Counsellors expect to see more students at this time of year, as the stress of final exams and anxiety about the uncertain future are paramount.

Students can drop into the centre during the day for an individual interview or in the evenings by appointment.

Delegates travelling

Three executive members of the Student Administrative Council will attend the annual meeting of Ontario Community Colleges Student Presidents' Association April 15-17.

Darryl Nadeau, this year's president; Randy Conlon, next year's president; and Kirk Mac-

Donald, this year's vice president of athletics, will attend. Originally, only Darryl and Randy were to attend, but it was suggested that Kirk attend for experience.

The cost for each delegate attending the OCCSPA conference is \$190.

Art show April 23

Fine Arts students will be holding their annual art show Fine Arts '88 in Hennepin Hall art gallery next month.

The exhibit which will run until April 23 will embrace all forms of the students' work, including graphics and lay out and design.

"If there is the same enthusiasm as other years, maybe three people will show up to view the show," Ken Cosgrove, fine arts co-ordinator, said.

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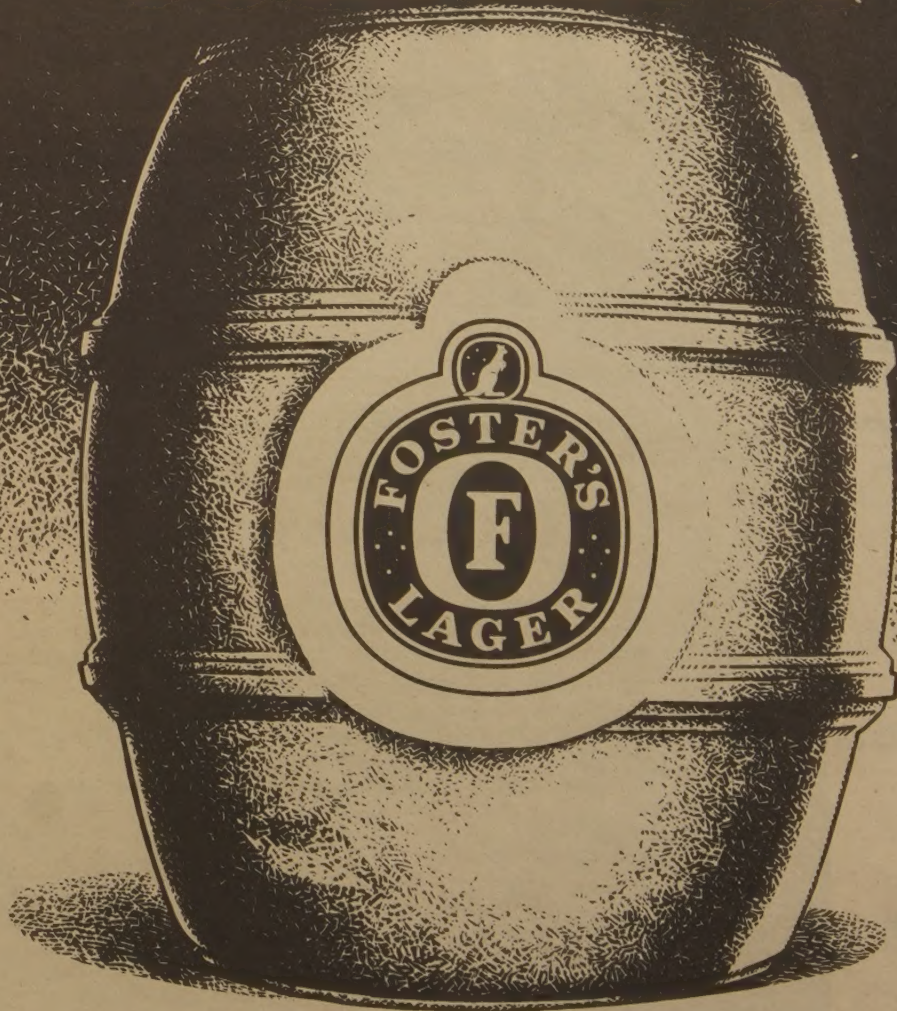


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Easter: more than chocolate

By ELAINE WILSON
Staff Writer

Despite the decorated eggs, chocolate rabbits, and the annual visit by the Easter Bunny, Easter remains an important religious celebration for millions of Christians.

Easter, celebrated this year on April 3, is the principal festival of the Christian Church, celebrating the death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ on the third day after his crucifixion. Its origins date back to the beginning of Christianity and is the oldest Christian observance after Sunday, which is the weekly celebration of the Resurrection of Christ.

Comic pub a success

By ELAINE WILSON
Staff Writer

The small group of Niagara College students on hand at the mini-pub last Friday were treated to a wonderfully comical show by two of Canada's freshest musical comedians.

Bowser and Blue have been busy making a name for themselves all over southern Ontario. Donning costumes and belting out satirical versions of popular songs, the duo left a great impression on the audience in attendance at the show in the cafeteria.

Their risqué style, somewhat vulgar and raunchy, rivals that of MacLean and MacLean, but without the constant profanity. They claim to "stretch the boundaries of good taste" and their interpretation of popular music reflects this aloof attitude.

The crowd of about 140 reacted favorably to the entertainment, singing along to some of the songs and sparring verbally with the duo.

The two Kitchener-based musical comedians have been making the college and university rounds, including bookings at Fanshawe College and the University of Western Ontario, both in London.

During their show, nothing was left sacred. They performed a satirical version of the Canadian relief song benefiting famine victims in Ethiopia, called "Beers are not Enough" and Suzanne Vega's "Luka" about child abuse, became the basis for a Rambo impression, "I Have a Bazooka."

The group had the crowd roaring with songs like "It Ain't Easy Being White" and solid impersonations of ZZ Top and Bruce Springsteen.

Even though the show was marred by a 25-minute delay, the audience did not seem to mind, as Bowser and Blue returned with a Dylanesque "Polka Dot Undies."

Their finale of the show was a tongue-in-cheek, wailing guitar impression of a Jimi Hendrix-flavored Canadian national anthem, illustrating the scope of the performer's humor and talent.

D.L. Webster, Student Administrative Council's vice-president of Internal Affairs, booked Bowser and Blue at a cost of \$1,000, a steep price for a short performance. D. L. received some static for the costly booking but was happy with the group's show.

"It was well worth the \$1,000 we spent and it's about time," D.L. said, amid the crowd's roar of approval.

The importance of the festival is emphasized in the worship of the church by the recognition of Lent, Holy Week and the Pentecost.

Lent, a time when Christians sacrifice something of themselves for a length of 40 days, begins on Ash Wednesday.

Holy Week is celebrated with solemn services. The week begins on Palm Sunday and extends to the following Easter Sunday, reflecting the final week of Christ's life.

Palm Sunday, or Passion Sunday, is celebrated to mark Christ's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. As Christ entered Jerusalem, his followers laid palms in his path and hailed him with cries of "Hosanna!"; Christians mark this event by distributing palms.

Good Friday, the most solemn time of Holy Week, recalls the crucifixion. Services and masses are usually held at 3 p.m., the moment when Christ drew his last

breath.

On Easter Sunday, the third day after his death, Christ rose from the dead and appeared before thousands of witnesses.

Many customs celebrated at Easter have religious origins associated with them. The most popular, Easter eggs, formerly forbidden to be eaten during Lent, were recognized as a symbol of resurrection and rebirth. Even the traditional Easter Bunny holds ritual meaning dating back to ancient Egypt, where the hare was a fertility symbol. In western civilization, this idea was adopted and the Easter Bunny is now known to lay chocolate eggs and hide them for children to find.

No matter what denomination, millions of people recognize this day in one form or another. Whether it is spent searching for eggs, celebrating in a place of worship, or simply as a day of relaxation, it seems everyone has a special love for this holiday.

Happy Easter!

Students display fashion at festival

The Fashion Design students have set up a booth at the Festival of Canadian Fashion in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre this week. The show is from Wednesday to Sunday.

Carole Timm, program coordinator, said that the Festival of Canadian Fashion is both stimulating and motivating for the students.

Canadian fashions to be recognized internationally.

The intention of having a booth at the Festival is to educate the tradespeople as well as the public about the Niagara College fashion program has to offer. It shows the tradespeople that the graduates are qualified to work in special fields as well as companies.

The cost of this booth is \$1,600. Mrs. Timm said the students have two corporate sponsors; Robinson Ogilvy with \$500 and The Angel Inn in Niagara-on-the-Lake with \$800, the proceeds of a dinner-dance given by the first-year

students.

This is the third year that the program has attended the Festival of Canadian Fashion. This is the fourth annual festival.

The booth will be decorated with 16-inch by 20-inch black and white pictures showing the students at work and in school. There will be a visual presentation and recognition of the sponsors.

Free trade

debate April 7

All students are encouraged to attend a free trade debate tentatively slated for Thursday, April 7. Speakers for the engagement have yet to be confirmed.

Further information on the debate will be posted throughout the college as soon as the date is made definite.



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Images in Vogue

Members of Canada's own Images in Vogue dropped by CRNC to talk with first-year RTV student John Robertson, centre, about the band's latest release, *The Spell*. The group, which includes lead

singer Dale Martindale, left, and keyboardist Joe Vizvary, right, plans to tour throughout the summer, visiting old friends and old places.

Photo by Elizabeth Finley

Cover your behind, set clocks ahead

By JULIE SLACK
Staff Writer

"Good morning, dear."
"Good morning."
"What time is my doctor's appointment?"
"9 a.m."
"Oh, I better get on my way."

AT THE OFFICE

"Sir, please step into the office and remove your pants."

Why would I remove my pants for an eye examination I wondered? Nevertheless, I followed the instructions. When the doctor appeared he had a knife in his hand.

What do you intend to do with that," I shrieked.

"Why Mr. Smith, you're not scared of me are you?"

"Mr. Smith? I'm not Mr. Smith."

"You must be. It is 10 a.m. and time for Mr. Smith's boil to be removed."

"It's only 9 a.m. What are you talking about?"

The doctor began laughing. "You must be Mr. Brown, my 9 a.m. patient who never showed up for his eye examination."

"Yes, that is correct," I said. "Guess you forgot to change your clock ahead. We're on daylight saving time now."

I was both relieved and embarrassed.

One can avoid this situation by remembering to spring ahead and fall behind. Set one's clocks ahead by one hour on Sunday, April 3. Daylight saving time has arrived earlier than ever before.

Sale is set

People with a weakness for sweets should be dieting to attend a bake sale sponsored by the Professional Chef's Association of Niagara on April 2 at the Pen Centre.

The bake sale is an annual event presented in conjunction with the Niagara College hotel and restaurant program's Rainbow Centre.

Community Hotels and restaurants lend their support to the event by donating the baked goods. The selling will get under way about 10 a.m.

Proceeds from the sale will go to the Professional Chef's association of Niagara.

Classified

FOR SALE One-way air ticket to Vancouver leaving Toronto April 28 at 8:55 p.m. — arrive Vancouver 10:55 p.m. — \$125 call 732-5235 for details.

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Flu season arrives

By ELAINE WILSON
Staff Writer

With warming breezes, sprouting buds and enticing sunshine, spring brings with it the cold and flu season; this year the flu bug may pack a bigger wallop with the discovery of a new virus, nicknamed the Shanghai flu.

Although the outbreak of the influenza A virus has reached epidemic proportions in the United States, Canada has not felt the full brunt of the flu's capabilities. Such is the case at Niagara College.

The Health Centre has had "lots and lots of flu," but Dawn Hall, college nurse, does not know if any of the illnesses can be attributed to the Shanghai virus.

SEVERE SYMPTOMS

The symptoms of the Shanghai flu are severe and last longer, from 12-14 days. Its presence is marked by a high fever peaking at 39.4 degrees Celsius and extreme fatigue. It also causes sore, raw throats, deep coughs and body aches.

There are two known types of influenza viruses: the type-A virus which lasts longer and occurs in two-year cycles, surfacing in the winter, and the B-type viruses which are shorter-lived, surface in localized out-breaks and are difficult to vaccinate against.

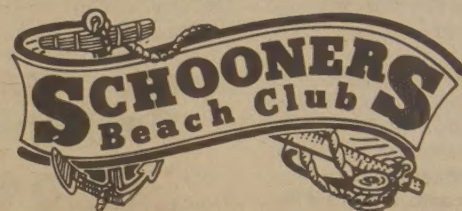
VARIETY OF ILLNESS

"People use the term 'flu' as a generic word to describe many symptoms of illness ranging from the simple cold to mononucleosis," Mrs. Hall said.

She warns that although the weather may seem appealing this time of year, students must resist the temptation to peel off jackets and don new spring clothing.

"This is a damp area and we are more susceptible to colds and flu," Mrs. Hall said. "When the weather fluctuates as it has, our resistance is low, and in an environment like the college, where there are a lot of bodies, viruses spread fast."

If experiencing flu-like symptoms, students should take care by eating properly and getting plenty of rest so to prevent from getting run-down.



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Turning Point Girls' Home creates new hope

By MARK TAYTI
Staff Writer

Carrie, 23, lived in Toronto. She had a condominium, an expensive car and a lot of money. She worked the streets of Toronto as a prostitute. She was strung out on drugs and alcohol. Her pimp dominated her, and she was ready to make a turning point in her life.

Ruth, 24, had a lot of emotional problems because of the abuse she had suffered as a child. She found comfort in Valium and alcohol. Social workers, psychiatrists and government institutions were unsuccessful in their attempts to help her. She gathered her courage to make a turning point in her life.

Betty, 23, was from a broken home. Physical, mental and sexual abuse drove her into the streets at an early age. After her second failed attempt at suicide, she desperately needed to make a turning point in her life.

At present, Carrie, Ruth and Betty live with nine other women who all have similar stories to tell. They are enrolled in a unique program which operates out of a refurbished farmhouse in Ridgeway, Ont. The program runs under the name of Turning Point Girls' Home.

The large two-storey farmhouse sits on 93 acres of land on Nigh Road. A large sign marks the long lane that leads to the house. It takes about a minute to drive in, but for those who come to live here the long road back will take more than a year.

The average age of the girls is between 18 and 25. Each is given an 18-page rule book when she enters the program. The rule book covers privileges, house policies and disciplines.

About 200 girls have started the program in the five years that it has been open. Most of the girls have been directed to the home by street ministries, guidance counsellors, and people involved in church groups. Some girls have come to the program from the courts as an alternative to going to jail.

The program is 13 months. After graduation, a follow-up program begins. Graduates are encouraged to phone, write or drop-in. There is a one to three-month refresher program for those who are still having trouble with their lives.

Bill Sitzai, director of TPGH, spoke about the home's objective: "We are here to help the girls by teaching them how to live a successful Christian life."

Mr. Sitzai attributes the high cure-rate on a non-institutional environment and a strong emphasis on religion — what he calls the Jesus Factor.

"We have an 85 per cent cure-rate among graduates."

He said TPGH concentrates on improving the girls' self-image. During his time at the home, Mr. Sitzai counsels girls who are dealing with homosexuality, prostitution, eating disorders, drug addiction, alcoholism, and other social problems.

"We try to show them that the past does not have to follow them through their lives."

TPGH is a branch of Turning Point Ministries, Beamsville. The land for the home was purchased in 1981. TPGH opened its doors in 1983 after two years of renovation.

Dedicated

Mr. Sitzai came to Turning Point Ministries from Teen Challenge, another youth organization dedicated to helping. Aside from being an ordained minister, Mr. Sitzai is a certified psychologist.

"All the staff here have a background in counselling, and diplomas from either a university or a Christian college."

TPGH runs solely on the charity of others. Pantries, freezers, cold stores and necessities are donated by church groups, local businesses and concerned individuals.

"Anybody who wants to know where the money is going is welcome to come and see for



Turning Point Girls' Home opened its doors five years ago to provide young women with a place to stay while they are working out their problems. The house sits on 93 acres of farmland in Ridgeway and is operated by Turning Point Ministries.

welcome to come and see for themselves," Mr. Sitzai said. "We have an open door policy here."

The Personal Accelerated Christianity acts as a schoolhouse for the girls. The building is two years old. It is an example of the slow but sure growth of TPGH. The girls have a weekly obligation of 18 hours in PACE.

A small chapel was recently donated to TPGH. At present the home is looking for a way to move the chapel onto the property.

"We don't want to start a church, but we would like to use the building as a community outreach."

When the home is operating at capacity, there are 15 girls and eight staff. At present, there is a staff shortage, so only 12 students are living at TPGH.

"This type of work isn't for everyone," Mr. Sitzai said. "The staff are here because they want to be."

Mr. Sitzai said there is a waiting list to get in to the program, but it would not be fair to the girls or the staff to operate at capacity right now.

The girls live three to a room, and change roommates once a month. Each room has a supervisor who makes sure the room is

kept in order. The room supervisors are chosen from girls in the program who have earned the trust of the staff.

"This is the only structure some of the girls have ever had in their lives, and most of them respond to it very well," Mr. Sitzai said. "They can feel the love here, and they know the staff really cares about what happens to them."

Development

Activities are group oriented, and the emphasis is on good clean fun. The girls go on hiking, camping, and tobogganning trips together, but spiritual and emotional development is handled individually.

"There are no locks on the doors," Mr. Sitzai said. "A girl can leave any time she wants."

Mr. Sitzai spoke confidently about the future of TPGH: "Our dream is to have a home that will accommodate 75 girls."

Carrie, Ruth and Betty have come a long way in a short time. They have already made the turning point in their lives. Now, they are looking ahead with hope, and leaving the past behind them.

Honda plant donates cars to college

Toronto's Honda Motor plant has given Niagara College's motor vehicle mechanic program two cars.

Nelson Long, liaison for the college, will go to Scarborough with Dave Spear, program co-ordinator, and George Rowbottom, chairman of the manufacturing/mechanical/construction division, School of Technology, on Wednesday, Mar. 30, to take possession of the cars.

There will be a special presentation ceremony surrounding the donation of a 1987 Civic wagon and a 1987 Acura Legend prototype which will take place at noon at the Honda plant on Milner Avenue.

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Sports

Roller coaster season ends at peak

By BILL SAWCHUK
Staff Writer

It could be called a tale of two seasons. In the first season which ended at the Christmas break, the Niagara Knights had a 3-4 record and carried a four-game losing streak into the Christmas break. In the second season, the Knights beat Buffalo State to give coach Fred Bassi his second hockey championship.

In between, the Knights took Mr. Bassi on a ride with more ups and downs than the roller-coaster at Crystal Beach. Through it all, the 1987-88 hockey Knights kept coming back. The team put the pre-Christmas losing streak behind them and won four in a row clinching third place in the league standings. The team showed its determination again, when trailing home team Penn State 5-2 in the semi-finals; the Knights stormed back and won 6-5 in spite of the noisy, intimidating, crowd. It was the third year in a row that the Knights have met Penn State in the semi-finals and the Knights have won each time — the Penn State coaches must have Knightmares when they face Niagara College. The victory put the Knights into the finals where they beat Buffalo State 5-4.

Exhibition

"It feels pretty good right now, and it will until that first exhibition game in October when we have defend it," Mr. Bassi said. "There will be some teams trying extra hard to knock us off because we are defending champions." The Knights last won a championship in 1980-81 when they were still part of the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association, and have been to the finals six times in the last 10 years.

The season started at the end of September, while the rest of us were enjoying Indian summer in our sunglasses and shorts, and the Toronto Blue Jays were trying to win the American League's eastern division pennant. After starting with 60 players, the Knights cut down to 25 and in the Cheetowaga tournament finished in second place losing to Buffalo State in a chippy game in which the Knights were flat and didn't play well. However, three players were named to the tournament all-star team: Chris Vandermeer, Mike Martineau and goalie Mark Bush.

Two wins

The Knights opened the regular season with two wins — beating Penn State 7-4 on Halloween and Erie Community College of Orchard Park, N.Y., 11-6. The Knights then lost four games in a row, blowing leads in the third period in three of the games.

However, the team turned it around in the new year. The addition of Jim Darling, a goalie who played with the St. Catharines Jr. B Falcons, and Mike Mooradian paved the way for the Knights' comeback and a 13-2 win against Conestoga College got the Knights back on track.

"I had confidence we'd turn it around," Mr. Bassi said. "We had an ace in the hole with Jim Darling."



The Niagara Knights hockey team capped an up-and-down season by winning the league championship in two thrilling games at Penn State University. Here, all-star goaltender Jim Darling thwarts

an opponent as he did in both play-off games to earn him the tournament Most Valuable Player award. Coach Fred Bassi said his team had "an ace in the hole" with Jim in goal. Photo by Rob Strohm

The Knights were able to clinch a playoff spot with a 7-5 victory over Penn State at the Welland Arena. Victories over Erie Community College and Conestoga College, 8-4 and 7-6, set the stage for a two-game road trip to Penn State.

After a 7½ hour road trip, the fatigued Knights played the Nitany Lions to a 5-5 draw on Friday but ran out of gas on Saturday afternoon, losing 8-4.

All that remained was a meaningless game against Erie Community College and the stage was set for the championship tournament at Penn State.

The Knights even found time for charity in their busy season when they played an exhibition game against the area's high school all-star team for the Niagara childhood development centre. The Knights won 9-8.

Mr. Bassi said the key to the team's championship was the big scoring line of Blake Sawyer, Chris Vandermeer, and Pat Flynn. The checking line of Mike Mooradian, James Ward and Wayne Conn did an excellent job against the other teams' top scorers and provided two big goals in the championship game.

Steady play for the defence was another cornerstone of the championship season. "We have five defencemen we can put on the ice

any time and feel confident with," Mr. Bassi said. "Bruce Horvath and Jim Beatti are both solid players over 220 pounds, and Todd Snyder was our quarterback back there."

Good goaltending is an important part of any winning hockey team and the Knights got it from Jim Darling at the end of the season. Mark Bush had a good season between the pipes posting a winning record, but Mr. Bassi said that he had to go with one goalie in the playoffs. "Mark understood. He is a team player."

Mr. Bassi felt the victory was a total team effort as the team came together during the championships.

It was a very successful season, and unlike the novel, A Tale of Two Cities, this story had a happy ending.

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Jays trip sold out

The SAC trip to see the Toronto Blue Jays' home opener is sold out.

Tickets went on sale Monday, March 14, and were gone by Thursday, March 17.

SAC secretary Donna Flutur said it is the quickest a SAC trip has sold out this year.

There is a waiting list of 10 people and a chance a second bus may be added.

"If the waiting list gets long enough, a third bus will be added," Mrs. Flutur said. "We need 44 people."

Tickets are \$20 for the trip Tuesday, April 11.

For those lucky enough to have tickets, the buses will leave at 10:30 a.m. from in front of the Black Walnut building. Students are asked not to bring bottles on the bus. Cans and wineskins will be allowed.

Other SAC trips this year were to Buffalo Sabres games and Toronto Blue Jay games in the fall.

Help wanted

The Niagara College Student Administrative Council is looking for a student to fill the position of bookkeeper for the 1988-89 academic year.

All applicants must be enrolled in a Business Accounting course or have experience in this field.

Applications must be submitted to Donna in the SAC office before Wednesday, March 30, 1988.

Questions and inquiries may be directed to the SAC office.

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She suggested some important books on the subject of imagery: *Women's Ways of Knowing*, *The Development of Self Voice and Mind*; *Putting Myself in the Picture*; and *Images in Action*, *A guide to Using Women's Film and Video*.

